News release

Records tumble during hot spell

7 August 2003

The heatwave gripping parts of Britain is likely to last into next week, especially across southern and central parts of the UK, Met Office forecasters said today although it will not be quite as hot as on recent days.

Temperature records have been broken across the country although the all time UK record of 37.1 °C wasn't reached yesterday.

- Gravesend-Broadness - the temperature reached 36.4 °C yesterday (Wednesday) making it the hottest day of the year so far and hottest day anywhere in UK since 3 August 1990.
- Wisley (Surrey) - the temperature reached 36.1 °C yesterday making it the hottest day there since digital data records began in 1959.
- St James Park (London) - the temperature reached 35.6 °C yesterday making it the hottest day there since digital data records began in 1959.
- Jersey (Channel Islands) - the temperature reached 34.8 °C on Tuesday making it the hottest day there since digital records began in 1957.
- Valley (Anglesey) - the temperature reached 33.0 °C on Tuesday making it the hottest day there since records began in 1931.

However we still have some way to go before other temperature records are broken. In the long hot summer of 1976, temperatures exceeded 32 °C (90 °F), somewhere in the UK, on 15 consecutive days starting on 23 June. So far in the current hot spell temperatures have exceeded 32 °C on three consecutive days beginning on Monday 4 August.

More about the high temperatures of August 2003

Other featured weather events from past years

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